

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

Ninth Sunday of Pentecost

July 26, 2026

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/WELCOME

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Congregation: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 56 LBW)

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God, C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen

OPENING HYMN

LBW #526 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

GREETING (pg. 57 LBW)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE (pgs. 58-59 LBW)

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW)

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you. P: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Pour out upon us, O Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right, that we, who cannot even exist without you, may have the strength to live according to your will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: 1 Kings 3:5-12

RESPONSIVE PSALM PRAYER: Psalm 119:129-136

L: Your decrees are wonderful therefore I obey them with all my heart.

C: When your word goes forth it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

L: I open my mouth and pant; I long for your commandments.

C: Turn to me in mercy, as you always do to those who love your name.

L: Steady my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

C: Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.

L: Let your countenance shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

C: My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:26-39

**Please stand for the procession of the cross, bowing as it passes by,
and remain standing until the cross is returned to its base.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**LBW #559 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
(Please rise)**

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 13th chapter. Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord. (After Gospel is read) P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SONG OF RESPONSE

LBW #564 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY

LBW #385 “What Wondrous Love Is This”

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (pg. 66 LBW) (Please rise) Congregation Sings: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (pg. 67 LBW) *P: Merciful Father,* **C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

GREAT THANKSGIVING (pgs. 68-69 LBW)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (pgs. 69-71) & LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD (pg. 72 LBW) **Congregation Sings: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING, CANTICLE & PRAYER (pgs. 72 LBW) **(Please rise as you are able) Congregation sings: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **C: Amen**

CLOSING HYMN

LBW #554 "This Is My Father's World"

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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*Quiet our spirits, O Lord, so that we might focus upon your presence and know that
we are properly worshiping you, our Creator, Redeemer and Comforter. Amen.*

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Darius Little Angie Trenberth

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Susan Millsap	Tracie Sisneros	Jim Perry	Mary Kempfer
Ron Minch	Chrissie Hall	Kim Ross	Kay Thomas
Sondra Sipes	Rich Friemel	Barb Corbly	Marty Mirocha
Melvina Heap	Paul Albers	Kim Wyre	Annette Carlson
Wilma Suits	Brian Dietz	Roberta Arthur	Steve Schluter
Glenn Behnke	John Keith	Pen Pendleton	Denny Doyle
Rodney Larkin	Lee Briggs	Carla Adkins	Jessica Hawn
Gabbi Reynolds	William Benton	Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen
Mary Mallicoat	Merrill Wattjes	Joan Percival	Joyce Williamson
Bob & Jenny Hobby			

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Dave Overholt	LouAnn Baugher	Pr. Barb Busboom	Genet Dixon
Luella Loschen	Joan Mathis	Martha Stanfill	Paul Wolters
Keith Dohleman	Earl Smith		

MILITARY (Bolded names are known to be in an area of higher danger):

Jon Stiebner	Alex Short	Brandon Elrod	Kasey Fenimore
Levi Loschen	Ryan Falletti	Riley Falletti	Eli Baker

ALTAR GUILD

ACOLYTES

GREETERS

LECTOR

PRAYER LEADER

WORSHIP STEWARD

USHERS

Terri Kirby, Sally Bauer

Eli Schluter, Liam Hall

Lois Madden, TBA

Justin Kaiser

Jim Cheek

DeAnn McMorris

Judy Peck, Andrew Peck, Bill Schlueter

WELCOME TO WORSHIP We rejoice in your presence as we gather in unity around the throne of grace.

FLOWERS TODAY are provided by *Steve and Janet Jeffers* in celebration of their 55th Wedding Anniversary on July 25th.

OPEN HOUSE The congregation is invited to attend an Open House to celebrate the 70th Birthday of Sue Coffin this afternoon from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the ALC Youth Hall.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES are due to the church office by this Monday, July 27th, for the August Newsletter.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will be studying the Psalms starting in October. We will be ordering workbooks for this study, so if you would like to attend, please let Pastor or the church office know.

CHRIST LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL'S KNIGHT FOR CHRIST BENEFIT AUCTION will be held on Saturday, August 22nd, at the Ford County Fairgrounds in Melvin. Silent Auction begins at 4:00 p.m. Dinner will be from 4:00-6:00 p.m. followed by the live auction. Reservations are \$50.00 per person. RSVP required by August 3rd. Please call the CLHS office at 217-394-2547 to RSVP or for more information.

ATTENTION USHERS When you are ushering on a Sunday morning, please check-in with the Worship Steward on duty when you arrive at church. This assures the Worship Steward knows you have arrived and can assign you the area you are to cover.

FOOD PANTRY The Community Service Center of Northern Champaign County Food Pantry is in need of non-perishable food items. Donation boxes are located in the Narthex and in the entryway outside the church office.

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION If you are a baptized believer, trusting that the life giving and sustaining power and presence of Christ is truly present in bread and wine, we welcome you to the Lord's table. Children who commune in their home congregations are welcome to commune; those who are not currently communing at the Lord's table are invited to come forward for a blessing keeping their hands to their sides. The center of each tray holds light colored, non-alcoholic juice for those with special circumstances. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request for those with allergies.

ATTENDANCE FROM LAST WEEK:

9:00 a.m. Worship Service – 136

BROADCAST/FLOWER CHART The cost to sponsor the broadcast on WPXN is \$50. The cost to provide flowers for Sunday is \$25. Please sign up on the chart outside the Narthex and call the office with the details to print in the bulletin.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for the 3rd Quarter (July-September) are still available to pick-up in the Narthex and in the entryway outside of the church office.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Isaiah 55:1-5; Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 26

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
 Women's Bible Study

Monday, July 27

12:30 p.m. Quilting

Thursday, July 30

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, August 2

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
 Women's Bible Study

Radio Broadcast Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m. on WPXN 104.9FM